

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 03020 161603Z

64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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R 161318Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8898

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3020

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SPANISH PRESIDENT AND HIGH RANKING SPANISH OFFICIALS)

SUBJECT: COMBINED EXERCISE "POOP DECK"

1. THE PRESIDENT OF THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT, CARLOS ARIAS NAVARRO, HAS ACCEPTED INVITATION I EXTENDED TO HIM ON BEHALF OF US GOVERNMENT TO OBSERVE FROM THE USS FORRESTAL COMBINED EXERCISE "POOP DECK" ON 19 JUNE. EXERCISE INCLUDES CARRIER TASK GROUP OF SIXTH FLEET AND UNITS OF THE SPANISH AIR FORCE AND WILL TAKE PLACE IN VICINITY OF BALEARIC ISLANDS.

2. PRESIDENT WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MINISTERS OF NAVY AND AIR AND CHIEF OF HIGH GENERAL STAFF GENERAL DIEZ ALEGRIA.

3. PRESIDENT AND MINISTERS WILL TRAVEL BY SPANISH AIRCRAFT FROM MADRID TO PALMA DE MALLORCA AND THENCE BY US NAVY HELO TO FORRESTAL. GENERAL DIEZ ALEGRIA AND NAVAL ATTACHE WILL ACCOMPANY ME IN CARRIER AIRCRAFT FROM TORREJON DIRECT TO CARRIER. SAME PROCEDURE WILL BE FOLLOWED ON RETURN IN THE AFTERNOON OF THE SAME DAY.

4. IN ADDITION TO OBVIOUS BENEFITS IN FURTHERING RELATIONS AND IMPRESSING SPANISH AUTHORITIES WITH US POWER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, THIS WILL PROVIDE ME WITH EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRESIDENT.

RIVERO

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Message Attributes

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